



## COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING

# REFUGEE HEALTH

PATHWAY: GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY

### Initiative Description

Refugee Health is an outreach initiative that focuses on identifying and addressing unique needs of the refugee population. The students also provide mentorship programs to refugee children which helps them assimilate to the new culture/ area they settle in.

### Annual Student Activities

- Ongoing statewide mental health research
- Mentorship program with local young adult refugees
- Health fairs, seminars, and cultural activities

### Community Outcomes/Results

- Regular community health screenings and education on diabetes, hypertension, and elevated cholesterol
- Annual back-to-school and sports physicals offered at health fairs
- Increased healthcare worker capacity to overcome language and cultural barriers to care
- Engagement in local coalition to support and strengthen community advocacy and services for our local refugees

### Facilitator

Shadi Bayadsy, PhD

### Partners

- Local & International NGOs, Non-Profits
- Religious Organizations
- Schools and Universities
- Local Health Systems

### The Need

- Hampton Roads is home to 2000 resettled refugees
- Approximately 17 000 of refugees can be found throughout VA
- Social determinants of health, including lingual patterns and history of forced displacement, affect health access and outcomes of this community